

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 IO-13
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 /094 W
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R 301923Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1453
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW
SUBJECT: RESERVISTS AS A FACTOR FOR MBFR DATA DISCUSSIONS

1. COLONEL RUDOLF WOLLER, PRESIDENT OF THE FRG'S RESERVE OFFICER ASSOCIATION AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE INTERALLIED FEDERATION OF RESERVE OFFICERS (CIOR) PRESENTED A WHITE PAPER ON WARSAW PACT RESERVE FORCES TO THE RECENT CIOR CONFERENCE IN BONN.

2. THE MAIN THESIS OF THE WHITE PAPER BOOK STEMS FROM WOLLER'S BELIEF THAT THE MBFR DATA DISCREPANCIES ARE LARGELY THE RESULT OF THE FACT THAT "BOTH SIDES SO FAR ABSTAINED FROM INCLUDING IN THEIR CALCULATIONS THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF RESERVISTS AND THEIR USE IN ACTIVE UNITS."

3. AS WOLLER SEES IT, THE EAST IS OPERATING WITH LOWER FIGURES BECAUSE THEY DO NOT INCLUDE RESERVISTS IN
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TRAINING, IN THEIR CALCULATIONS OF TOTAL ARMED FORCES STRENGTH. WOLLER MAINTAINS THAT THE WEST COUNTS EASTERN SOLDIERS AS PERMANENT PARTY WHEN THEY ARE, IN REALITY, RESERVISTS ON TEMPORARY DUTY.

4. WOLLER ORIGINALLY PRESENTED HIS IDEA TO THE FRG'S CIOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LAST YEAR. THE COMMITTEE ACTED

FAVORABLY ON HIS SUGGESTION AND RESEARCH FOR THE WHITE PAPER BEGAN.

5. COMMENT: WE CANNOT JUDGE THE MERITS OF WOLLER'S THESIS UNTIL COPIES OF THE WHITE PAPER HAVE BEEN OBTAINED AND ANALYZED. WE HAVE REQUESTED SUFFICIENT COPIES TO ALLOW DISTRIBUTION TO INTERESTED ADDRESSEES.

6. WOLLER'S PROPOSAL HAS AN OBVIOUS TWOFOOLD PURPOSE: (A) TO PROVIDE, AS HE SEES IT, A WAY OUT OF THE DATA IMPASSE IN MBFR, AND (B) TO FOCUS THE NATO GOVERNMENTS' ATTENTION ON BETTER UTILIZATION OF THEIR OWN RESERVE FORCE CAPABILITIES. MEEHAN

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Message Attributes

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